

Remarks

The examiner is thanked for the Official Office Action mailed February 5, 2003. The Applicant also appreciates the examiner's personal interview on June 16, 2003. The examiners efforts have significantly accelerated the prosecution of the subject application. This amendment and request for reconsideration is intended to be fully responsive to the above Office Action and interview.

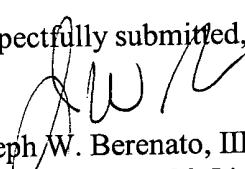
In the above Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-24 and 38-40 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,391,340 to Mirous et al, in view of U.S. Patent 5,183,622 to Persson.

During the June 16, 2003 interview, it was agreed that the prior art does not teach adding a pigment layer prior to the reforming step, as called for in currently amended independent claim 1, and original independent claim 38. Claim 4 has been canceled, and claims 5, 6, 10, 12, 22, and 24 have been amended to avoid redundancy with amended claim 1. Also in this amendment, the word "over" has been added to clarify claim 38, and previously inadvertently deleted claim 25 was re-instated as new claim 41.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments resolve all outstanding issues and place this application in condition for allowance. Should the examiner believe that additional discussion would advance the prosecution of the present

application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below. Concurrent with this amendment, a request for a two month extension of the original due date is also being filed. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fees to deposit account No. 50-0548.

Respectfully submitted,



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